BACKGROUND FILE

"Johnson will absolutely hate it (the book" according to an unidentified "source" who had read the book (Phila Inq 12/25/66)....
"You have the feeling that LBJ wanted to use Jackie to some extent because he wanted her ~~xxxthexpicture~~ to be in the picture in the swearing in", same source, also,
"He (LBJ) was rather brusque. LBJ wanted to establish instantly that he was the President.(Robert)Kennedy interpreted this as 'Here is this man who has been wishing he had been President all along and here he is grabbing it."..."The book shows the whole episode as seen through Kennedy eyes. It isn't embarrassingly pro-Kennedy but when you get through you realize there is almost nothing in it that is unkind about the Kennedy family".
From same atory, "Another publishing source said that Mr. Kennedy's associates whwn questioned by Manchester described Mr. Johnson's behavior as 'boorish, rude and lacking in respect' for Mr. Kennedy". The stor story continues:"The published account accounts of their reaction to what took place have Mr. Johnson 'commanding Mrs. Kennedy to stand near him' as he took the oath of office and 'barking orders at Kenneth O'Donnell intended to make clear whi is boss now'."
Mrs. Lincoln is quoated as saying, "Lyndon seemed so anxious to take over" and of being reminded "of Texas politicians gathering at a political convention". Bracketing this, as in all accounts is the story of the presumeably hardened "publishing industry source" saying "I couldn't help myself I wept when I read how the nurse told the little girl of the death of her

father. It was as heartbreaking as anything in this book filled with heartbreak."This, as in other cases, is followed by the touching account of little John, who had never been able to salute properly, although he tried manfully for his two years, at the funeral, for the first time not hitting his nose or ear when told "Salute your ~~xxxxxx~~ Daddy" and executing "a perfect salute".
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"There were also published reports that 'on arriving in Washington Kennedy men and Johnson men tusseled for possession of the dead President's casket, even dropping it at one point!"
.....
Probably no American historian has ever had such immediate access to the personalities connected with a major historical event... And he used the material with skill to detail what readers of the manuscript say is an unflattering picture of a new President assuming power and the agony of Mrs. Kennedy... The book is expected to strain further the relationship between Mr. Johnson and the Kennedy family...There is also speculation...that it might jeopardize Mr. Johnson's chances for reelection in 1968